

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-10 IO-13
EUR-12 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-08 DOE-11
INT-05 OMB-01 OES-07 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 NRC-05
SSM-03 /155 W

-----101239 142228Z /46

R 141210Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1385
INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USIA WASHDC

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USIA FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, SA
SUBJECT: CROWN PRINCE FAHD INTERVIEW WITH KUWAITI PAPER

SUMMARY: IN HIS INTERVIEW WITH THE KUWAITI PAPER AL-RAI
AL-AAM, CROWN PRINCE FAHD DISCUSSED ARAB SOLIDARITY, POSSIBLE
SAUDI RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL, THE REJECTION FRONT, AND
SAUDI-IRANIAN RELATIONS. WHEN ASKED A DIRECT QUESTION ABOUT
POSSIBLE USE OF THE "OIL WEAPON" IN CASE OF ANOTHER WAR IN
THE MIDDLE EAST HE SAID HE PREFERRED TO DISCUSS PEACE NOT
WAR. THERE WAS NO
MENTION OF MILITARY SALES, OIL PRICES, OR INTERNATIONAL
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CURRENCY MATTERS. END SUMMARY.

1. SAUDI PAPERS OF MARCH 10 CARRIED TEXT AND EDITORIAL
PRAISES OF CROWN PRINCE FAHD'S INTERVIEW WITH KUWAITI
PAPER AL-RAI AL-AAM. HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS INTERVIEW AS
FOLLOWS:

2. ASKED ABOUT POSSIBLE RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL BY SAUDI ARABIA IF SOME OR ALL OF OTHER ARAB STATES GAVE RECOGNITION, PRINCE FAHD SAID "GREAT, DECISIVE POSITIONS ARE NOT TAKEN AS A RESULT OF INDIVIDUAL OPINIONS BUT ARE A RESULT OF COLLECTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN IN SUMMIT MEETINGS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ARAB LEAGUE. IF THE MATTER ENDED AT THE COMPREHENSIVE, JUST SOLUTION WHICH WE ARE CALLING FOR AND WHICH ACHIEVES ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL OCCUPIED ARAB LAND AND RESTORATION OF THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE ARAB PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THEIR HOME LAND AND IN THEIR BEING ALLOWED TO ESTABLISH A STATE IN THEIR LAND, THEN IT IS POSSIBLE AT THAT TIME WE WOULD EXAMINE THE MATTER OF RECOGNIZING ISRAEL WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A UNANIMOUS POSITION OF THE ARAB STATES".

3. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF RENEWED USE OF THE "OIL WEAPON" IN CASE OF ANOTHER WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST, PRINCE FAHD SAID, "IN THESE MOMENTS IT IS NECESSARY TO DISCUSS PEACE NOT WAR. THE WHOLE WORLD AT THIS HISTORICAL PERIOD LOOKS FORWARD TO A DAY OF PERMANENT PEACE. IN THESE CONDITIONS I DO NOT WANT TO IMAGINE THE OTHER, GLOOMY ASPECT. THAT DOES NOT MEAN WE CONSIDER WAS REOMTE--RATHER WE WANT TO ASSIST IN PREPARING A CLIMATE SUITABLE FOR PEACE. THERE IS A LOT OF NOISE ABOUT OIL, BUT I WANT TO AFFIRM MY DESIRE TO MAKE OIL THE CONSTANT SERVANT OF HUMAN CIVILIZATION AND ITS DEVELOPMENT. WE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAVE BEEN AWARE OF THIS TROUTH SINCE THE BEGINNING, AND IF WE HAVE BEEN CONCERNED WITH ALL ASPECTS OF MANKIND'S WELFARE, THEN IN EXCHANGE WE WOULD LIKE THE WORLD TO UNDERSTAND A LITTLE BIT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR CAUSES AND THEIR JUSTICE, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE THE ARAB MAN URGES THAT JUSTICE BE A CONSTRUCTIVE ELEMENT IN HUMAN SOCIETY."

4. CONCERNING THE REJECTION FRONT AND THE SADAT INITIATIVE, AMIR FAHD SAID, "IN PRINCIPLE I AM VERY CONCERNED THAT THE ARABS SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE IN ALL CONDITIONS AND SURROUNDINGS WHICH WILL REUNITE THE ARAB NATION. THE DISAGREEMENTS WHICH APPEAR FROM TIME TO TIME DO NOT CHANGE THE STRENGTH OF THE ARAB NATION AND ITS COHESION WHEN REQUIRED. PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENNE HAS DESCRIBED THE ATTITUDE OF THE TRIPOLI CONFERENCE TOWARD EVENTS AND WE UNDERSTOOD THIS POSITION, JUST AS WE UNDERSTOOD OTHER POINTS OF VIEW."

5. WHEN ASKED ABOUT IRANIAN-SAUDI RELATIONS AND ABOUT THE RESULTS OF HIS TALKS WITH THE SHAH, PRINCE FAHD SAID, "BROTHERLY RELATIONS WITH IRAN ARE BASED ON A COMMON

RELIGION, ON NEIGHBORLINESS, AND ON COMMON INTERESTS.
I HAVE ALWAYS FOUND THE SHAH HAS A DEEP AWARENESS OF
ALL COMMON CONCERNS DISCUSSED AND OF QUESTIONS OF THE
MOMENT, ESPECIALLY THOSE RELATED DIRECTLY TO OUR TWO
COUNTRIES. THE POSITIONS OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES IN THESE
TALKS ARE ALWAYS ANNOUNCED BOTH IN OFFICIAL STATEMENTS
AND IN INTERVIEWS FOLLOWING THE DISCUSSIONS".

6. COMMENT: IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT WHEN ASKED DIRECTLY
FAHD AVOIDED ANY DISCUSSION OF A CRUDE OIL
BOYCOTT. NOR DID FAHD MAKE ANY MENTION OF MILITARY SALES, OF
OIL PRICES, OR OF A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO. HE DID
MAKE IT CLEAR THAT SAUDI ARABIA PLACES SUCH GREAT IMPOR-
TANCE ON ARAB SOLIDARITY THAT THE COUNTRY MIGHT EVEN CON-
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SIDER TAKING THE DISTASTEFUL STEP OF RECOGNIZING ISRAEL
IF THAT COULD BE DONE IN AN ALL-ARAB CONTEXT.
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